

ROCKED TO SLEEP BY ROAR OF CANNON

Lieut. James C. Bible Writes
Interesting Letter From
"Over There."

"The roar of cannon puts me to sleep every night. It sounds like a thunderstorm."

"I have seen Germans in action; looked at them for a long time yesterday with field glasses."

This is the postscript to a letter written by Lieut. James C. Bible, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Bible, who is right near the front in France.

Lieut. Bible is a graduate of the first officers' training camp at Fort Oglethorpe. He won a commission as second lieutenant in the field artillery, but was transferred to a motor truck train and promoted to first lieutenant upon arriving in France.

The letter tells the story best:

"We moved over land with the troop train to follow our division to the front."

"It was a long hard trip for we are now in another part of France."

"I have never worked so hard in all my life."

"Our division is in action in one of the thickest parts of the line. A, B, and C companies were detached and made into a provisional ammunition train and I was put in command. So I have about 60 trucks, 175 men and several officers."

"It was the climax of all my good luck, so now, I have a train instead of a company."

"Now, I will tell all I can. We traveled from a railroad some thirty miles in the rear to within three miles of the front, and I often go up to the front line. I have run the gunnery several times. We work mostly at night."

"I forgot to say the P. A. train is attached to a French division."

"Our American troops have done wonderful work, and the French respect them greatly. They say you can't beat Americans; they don't know when they are whipped. I have seen lots and lots of air battles and seen planes fall down. There are hundreds around all the time."

"The train has had very few casualties, only wounds and no deaths."

"You have an odd feeling, but feel no fear when you are up at the front."

"It is exciting and I have never been so well contented in my life as now."

"But I am working sometimes sixteen and eighteen hours, and sometimes thirty-six hours straight. The responsibility is making deep lines in my forehead, but I guess they will come out. I love it all."

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LETTERS FROM CHATTANOOGA BOYS IN OVERSEAS SERVICE

ALEX KEESE WRITES FROM SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE

Gives Beautiful Description of
Country—Home Paper Worth
More Than Fortune.

Alex Keese, son of Rev. and Mrs. W. S. Keese, of Highland Park, has written his first letter home since his arrival in France. No young man is better known in music circles in Chattanooga than Alex Keese. With the exception of professionals he was the finest violinist in the city. He was a member of the Chattanooga High school orchestra and a popular student of that school.

He comes from a well-known southern family, and no one is held in higher esteem in the community than Dr. and Mrs. Keese.

Mrs. Keese is a talented musician and all of the children are educated in

Alex Keese, Well-Known
Violinist, in France



ter from her brother, Oscar B. Wehnt, of Company A, 113th machine gun battalion, with the American expeditionary forces "somewhere in France," in which he states that his command has arrived safely overseas. He had been in a hospital for a few days, but was now well. All the boys in his company are well, he states. Several members of his company are Chattanooga boys. He thinks it won't be long until all are back in the "dear old U. S. A."

CLEON AND OTTO HOUSTON
DOING BIT "OVER THERE"

Young Men Send Word They
Are Well and Happy—Both
Enlisted in Detroit.

Cleon and Otto Houston, sons of J. E. Houston, of this city, are "over

Houston Brothers.

Writes "We Are Honest-to-Goodness
Soldiers Now; No Playing or Holi-
day Trips, but Real Soldiers."

music. Alex has been reared in Chattanooga, and his many friends will read with interest the following letter:

"Some where in France, June 2, 1918. 'Dear mother—I know you are anxious about me, for it has been a long time since I've had a chance to write, this, too, the distance we have traveled makes it take a long time for mail to go back home."

Of course I've had an exciting time and a wonderful trip. I wish I could tell you of some of my adventures, but the censor is very strict and I'm afraid if I tried to tell you he would cut them out. I've seen the wonderful scenery of old England and the beautiful valleys and fields of France. Yesterday we came through some of the most beautiful country I ever saw. I have walked out through the country and seen the very living pictures which immortalize Ribblesdale, Millett and other areas. It is all very, very beautiful and also very sad. We are honest to goodness soldiers now; no playing or holiday trips, but real soldiers. We put up with some hardships, of course, but through it all the boys have a fine spirit and take them good naturedly. We feel the war spirit now more than I thought possible. You think the Americans feel it, but they don't, and probably won't for some time yet."

"Is father still thinking of taking up Y. M. C. A. work?"

"After talking to several Y. M. C. A. men I am inclined to discourage him. I want him to stay at home, for I think he owes it to you and the children. The Y. M. C. A. is a great institution, but there are others who haven't the obligations which father has."

"Of course we aren't in the trenches, but we are close enough to hear the big guns roaring incessantly. I am at a loss to know exactly what to say. There is so much to tell, and yet we aren't allowed to tell many things which I know would be interesting."

"We are working hard in preparation for the time when we will be called to go against Fritz. At nights, as I lie awake listening to the far-off boom of the cannons, some strange thoughts fill my mind. Sometimes I stay up and watch the air battles, staged all around us. No one is out of danger anywhere in France. Some nights remind me of a night's celebration back home—the bursting shell, the signal rockets and the powerful searchlight. I am in perfect health and more than ready to go to the front if necessary."

"I'm working on my French horn now and it is a job. I work on my violin once and awhile, too."

"We haven't received any mail yet, but I am looking for it any day. You have no idea how we look forward to the mail. Being so far from home and loved ones gives you a homesick feeling. I wonder if it's possible to get a Chattanooga paper regularly. A home paper is worth more than a fortune over here."

"Chief is calling for a concert, so I'll have to stop. Write often. I'll try to write regularly and often. ALEX."

Charlie Dorsey Quits
Job on City Police Force

Patrolman Charlie Dorsey, for eight years and seven months a member of the police department, has resigned from the force. He has several positions open to him but has made no definite selection. The police department loses one of its very best men by the resignation of Mr. Dorsey and Commissioner Betterson gives the retiring officer an excellent name. It was Charlie Dorsey and Richard Turner, Jr., who patrolled East Ninth street back when vice and crime were stalking the streets and alleys and it was these officers who practically broke up the sale of cocaine, dope and put an end to other disorders. For the past few months Mr. Dorsey was stationed at Ninth and Georgia avenue.

COURTHOUSE OFFICES CLOSE
ALL DAY INDEPENDENCE DAY

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OSCAR B. WEHNT

With Company A, 113th Machine Gun Battalion, France.

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from her brother, Oscar B. Wehnt, of Company A, 113th machine gun battalion, with the American expeditionary forces "somewhere in France," in which he states that his command has arrived safely overseas. He had been in a hospital for a few days, but was now well. All the boys in his company are well, he states. Several members of his company are Chattanooga boys. He thinks it won't be long until all are back in the "dear old U. S. A."



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W. L. BARTON WOUNDED EIGHT TIMES AT FRONT

Writes He Can Sleep Calmly
Under Nose of Booming
Twelve-Inch Gun.

W. Leonard Barton, a young Chattanooga boy, who is with Company 80, Sixth regiment, American expeditionary forces, has been wounded in action "over there," according to official notification received here Tuesday. Miss Mary Barton, his sister, has also received a letter from Leonard's nurse. Eight flying pieces of shrapnel struck him in the shoulder. He was wounded on June 8.

W. A. Barton, the father, is foreman at the Converse Bridge company in Ridgeland. He has been with this company for many years.

Until he entered the service of Uncle Sam, practically all of Leonard Barton's life was spent in Chattanooga. His letters to homefolks and friends

W. L. Barton.



have been optimistic and cheerful. In a recent letter to Miss Grace Cornish, a friend, he explained that he had just come out of the trenches for a much-needed rest. He said shells had burst all around him, "but I haven't received a scratch yet, thank goodness." Speaking of life in the trenches, he wrote that they could get little sleep, and when they did get an opportunity they had to sleep in a dugout. He said the rats were too numerous to count and the dugouts are wet and cold. They have received but little news concerning the war, he related, outside of their own sector, so he could tell practically nothing of what was going on. "We're holding a pretty important sector at present," he writes, "but I can't tell you which sector it is. Things look as if the war might end within the next two or three years at